

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, SAN DIEGO REGION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP AND CEQA SCOPING MEETING
NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE – SAN DIEGO TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD
FOR TOXICITY AND DEGRADED BENTHIC COMMUNITY**

THE MEETING HAS BEEN CONTINUED FROM OCTOBER 28, 2003 TO NOVEMBER 19, 2003

Regional Board Office Board Room
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123-4340

PUBLIC WORKSHOP AND CEQA SCOPING MEETING

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (Regional Board) will hold a public workshop and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping meeting on Naval Submarine Base – San Diego (SUBASE) Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for toxicity and benthic community degradation.

THIS PUBLIC WORKSHOP HAS BEEN CONTINUED

NEW DATE: November 19, 2003

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Regional Board Office – Board Room
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123-4340

Two or more Regional Board members may attend this meeting. However, no voting will occur.

Purpose of the Public Workshop: To introduce the SUBASE TMDL, answer questions, and receive input from the public on the TMDL for toxicity and degraded benthic community. Public participation is an important part of the TMDL process and is encouraged.

Purpose of the CEQA Scoping Meeting: To receive comments on the scope of issues to be addressed in the “functionally equivalent” documents prepared pursuant to CEQA Section 21080.5 of the California Public Resources Code.

BACKGROUND

The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) requires States to develop a list of waterbodies which do not, or are not expected to, meet water quality standards after implementing technology based controls. CWA Section 303(d) requires States to identify these impaired waters and develop TMDLs for such waters. The purpose of a TMDL is to restore the waterbody’s beneficial uses and attain water quality objectives.

Sediments in San Diego Bay in the vicinity of SUBASE are contaminated with anthropogenic chemicals. In addition, this site contains degraded benthic macroinvertebrate communities, and samples from these areas have been demonstrated to be toxic to various marine invertebrate species in laboratory toxicity tests. As a consequence, this site has been identified as areas of impaired water quality. In response to this contamination, the Regional Board has

initiated efforts to develop a TMDL for this site in order to reduce ongoing loadings of contaminants of concern.

These efforts require information in order to initiate action: delineation of the spatial extent and magnitude of impairment, information on temporal variability of contamination and bioeffects, causes of impacts, and descriptions of the sources of contaminants. Similar information is needed for remediation planning, so that the affected area can be defined, and effective clean-up standards established. The primary objective of these actions is elimination of the impairment of benthic animal communities and cleanup of the contaminated marine sediment. In addition, the Regional Board has determined that these efforts should also minimize human health and wildlife impacts resulting from the accumulation and possible biomagnification of contaminants in the food web.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

To obtain the most current information on the SUBASE TMDL for toxicity and degraded benthic community, contact us by:

U.S. Mail: Regional Water Quality Control Board, 9174 Sky Park Court Suite 100, San Diego, California 92123-4340.
Attention: Mr. Alan Monji

Email: SDBAY_TMDLS@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov or monja@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov

Telephone: Mr. Alan Monji (858) 637-7140

Website: www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9

The documents can also be reviewed by appointment at the Regional Board office at the above address.

INFORMATION

Parking is available at the workshop location. A map with directions to the workshop may be obtained from the Regional Board’s website or by contacting Ms. Lori Costa at the phone number below.

The workshop room facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Lori Costa at (858) 467-2357 at least 5 working days prior to November 19, 2003. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

John H. Robertus
EXECUTIVE OFFICER